UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/CN.6/1994/L.16
15 March 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Thirty-eighth session
New York, 7-18 March 1994
Agenda item 5

PRIORITY THEMES

Algeria, Belarus, Ecuador, Namibia, Pakistan and Philippines: draft resolution

Violence against women migrant workers

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling the Charter of the United Nations which reaffirms faith in human rights and fundamental freedoms, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 47/96 of 16 December 1992 and 48/110 of 20 December 1993 on violence against women migrant workers,

Reaffirming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, 1/

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 2/

1/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

2/ General Assembly resolution 48/104.

Welcoming also the decision of the Commission on Human Rights at its fiftieth session to appoint, for a three-year period, a Special Rapporteur on violence against women, including its causes and its consequences, who will report to the Commission on an annual basis, beginning at its fifty-first session,

Noting the measures adopted by some receiving States to alleviate the plight of some women migrant workers residing within their areas of jurisdiction,

Noting also the increasing feminization of migrant workers,

Concerned about the continuing reports of violence against women migrant workers, including the victimization of a large number of them by traffickers,

1. Calls upon States Members of the United Nations to adopt measures for the effective implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, particularly as it applies to migrant women workers;

2. Also calls upon the States concerned, specifically the sending and receiving States of women migrant workers, to conduct frequent and regular consultations for the purpose of identifying problem areas in promoting and protecting the rights of women migrant workers and in ensuring health and social services for them, adopting specific measures to address these problems, setting up mechanisms to implement these measures, and, in general, creating conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance between women migrant workers and the rest of the society in which they reside;

3. Urges States Members of the United Nations, particularly those from which women migrant workers originate and those which play host to them, to incorporate in their laws, where none exist, specific provisions to ensure the protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of women migrant workers as defined by international conventions and agreements, specially those under the aegis of the International Labour Organization;

4. Encourages Member States to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; 3/

5. Calls upon States concerned to adopt effective measures to prevent the victimization of women migrant workers by traffickers and to penalize those traffickers;

6. Invites the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, in carrying out her or his mandate, to pay particular attention to the violence perpetrated against women migrant workers, and to furnish a copy of her or his first report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-ninth session, as well as copies of subsequent reports to the corresponding succeeding sessions of the Commission;

3/ General Assembly resolution 45/158, annex.

7. Also invites relevant United Nations functional bodies and specialized agencies, in particular the International Labour Organization, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to monitor the situation of women migrant workers and to submit reports thereon through normal channels;

8. Requests the Centre for Human Rights to include as a matter of priority the promotion and protection of the human rights of women migrant workers in its agenda, through the appropriate channels and relevant bodies, and to bring to the attention of the General Assembly, through the Commission on Human Rights, and the Economic and Social Council, the report thereon;

9. Reiterates the recommendation of the General Assembly, contained in its resolution 48/35, for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, which is to be held at Beijing in September 1995, to address the problem of violence against women migrant workers;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to develop concrete indicators of observance by receiving and sending countries of existing international instruments protecting women migrant workers as a basis for future action to address the problem;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its thirty-ninth session a copy of his report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, relative to violence against women migrant workers, which should include the reports to be submitted by the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, relevant United Nations functional bodies and specialized agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.